



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Charlie Phillips, Chair | Captain Mark Brown, Vice Chair
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT DECEMBER 2017

The **Council's priorities for 2017/18** are included as Attachment 3b in TAB 12, Executive Finance Committee. Detailed information on the status of each FMP/Amendment and upcoming meetings is contained in the **Council Follow-Up** (Attachment 3a in TAB 12, Executive Finance Committee). There will be a number of new items that need to be accommodated within our list of priorities so we will need to discuss and get guidance.

Also in Executive Finance we will be looking at options to reduce our costs in 2018. We have provided options to trim costs as requested and will need the Council's guidance.

Charlie and I attended the Northeast Regional Coordination Council (NRCC) meeting in November to talk about how we manage species as they continue to shift their distribution northwards. This is an effort Michelle Duval initiated with the Mid-Atlantic Council's leadership. A report from that meeting is included as Attachment 1b in TAB 1, Executive Finance Committee. The Council will discuss the responses to our requests and provide guidance to staff. One possible outcome is that the South Atlantic Council resume sending a liaison to Mid-Atlantic Council meetings. This was discussed during our September 2017 Executive Finance Committee meeting. If the Council decides to do this, the cost for a South Atlantic Council liaison to the Mid-Atlantic Council is estimated to be \$17,399 based on the Mid-Atlantic's 2018 meeting schedule.

This has been a busy time since our late September Council meeting. Staff has been busy dealing with the red snapper season and we have had very exciting results from our voluntary recreational reporting program. This holds lots of promise for the future. We have scheduled a workshop on recreational reporting on Tuesday morning and then you will discuss this issue in Snapper Grouper Amendment 46.